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The plan of a text-book in microbiology, which seeks to furnish basic principles, must assume a definite and systematic arrangement. With this in view, the text, amply illustrated with figures, has been divided into three parts: Morphological and Cultural, or that which deals with lower forms of life and methods of handling; Physiological, or that which deals strictly with functions; Applied, or that which reaches into the application of the facts developed to the problems met in the study of professional or practical affairs of agriculture, or domestic science.—JOHN W. HARSHBERGER.

NEWS ITEMS

We learn from *Science* that under the auspices of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia, a botanic and geographic expedition is to be made this summer to southern Florida by Professor John W. Harshberger, of the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Harshberger has made two previous trips to Florida and this expedition is to complete his studies in the Everglades region of the extreme southern part of the peninsula. The itinerary will be approximately as follows: Making Fort Meyers on the west coast headquarters, Professor Harshberger will first investigate the region in that vicinity; visits will be made to several of the islands along the gulf coast; the Caloosahatche will be ascended by power boat to Lake Okeechobee and the flora of that inland lake will be studied. Then the attempt will be made (if the drainage canal has been sufficiently constructed) to cross the Everglades to Fort Lauderdale on the east coast. As no botanical geographer has ever crossed the Everglades, unusual opportunities will be presented to study a region of great scientific interest. Photographs will be taken of the vegetation, the region will be mapped botanically, and a collection of the more interesting plants will be made. An abstract of the results of this expedition will be published in the October number of the *Bulletin* of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia.

The United States Forest Service has prepared a traveling exhibit of photographs for circulation among schools and libraries. It is sent free of expense, except of course transportation charges

(weight 15 pounds). The exhibit consists of 44 pictures, arranged in sets of four, for such topics as forest fires, lumbering, forests and water supply, and how the national forests are used. Applications should be made directly to the Forester, Washington, D. C.

Professor Josephine E. Tilden, of the University of Minnesota, has been given leave of absence on half salary, for the coming year, to carry on botanical research in the Islands of Tahiti and New Zealand.

We learn from *Science* (31 May) that Dr. B. M. Duggar, of Cornell University, has been elected to fill the professorship of plant physiology and applied botany in Washington University, St. Louis.

Professor F. O. Grover, head of the department of botany in Oberlin College, has been appointed by the faculty to represent the college in the Ohio Biological Survey.

At the University of Pennsylvania Guy E. Albert, of York Springs, and John Y. Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, have both received university scholarships in botany.

The following botanists have been elected to the fraternity of Sigma Xi at Columbia University: C. A. Darling, B. O. Dodge, R. C. Benedict, and W. S. Cameron.